drobo

Is Your Plan for Offsite Backup Working?

Affordable offsite protection for unstructured data with rapid recovery could not be easier when using Drobo® 8-bay File Sharing Storage for Business and Drobo DR

Customer Challenge

Odds are that your business is not regularly testing your ability to recover from a disaster. Businesses of all sizes back up their data, but it's not perfect, even in large enterprises. Most business managers do not know how complicated and risky the recovery process is. IT managers that regularly test recovery know that it fails more often than not. Complexity is the reason recovery is not as quick and reliable as it should be. Whether companies have ten or ten thousand employees, they still need fast and reliable recovery.

Historically, businesses have used offsite tape vaulting to ensure that backup data is not lost in the event of a disaster. Recently, cloud-based backup has gained visibility as an approach for getting data offsite. Both offsite vaulting and cloud backup are limited in their ability to recover quickly. For vaulting, tapes must be transported and restored. With cloud backup, data can be available immediately, but transferring very large amounts of data from the cloud can take hours or even days. These recovery times are not acceptable, as business users have come to expect nearly instant recovery.

The Solution

Replicating files between sites can serve as an automatic offsite backup to enable very rapid access to files and restoration of file data. At a basic level, say for SMBs, only new files or changes in existing files are copied to the secondary site. The sync operation can be regularly scheduled during off-peak hours or several times during the day—it can also be started on demand. Users at the primary site continue to access file storage the way they are used to and the device at the remote site serves as a duplicate copy of the primary.

This way configuration and maintenance of the offsite backup is simplified, which is even more helpful when it comes to fast recovery. Like cloud-based backup, individual files can be accessed from offsite storage. Unlike public-cloud backup, offsite backup with file replication allows for rapidly redirecting users to the secondary site in the event of a disaster—and the secondary is an exact replica of the primary. This solution serves as "private cloud" infrastructure, and many service providers can host the secondary storage device if no other suitable site is available to users.

Highlights

- Solution built with innovative simplicity for small businesses
- Gives small businesses offsite backup for less than $100 per month
- Recovery in less than an hour compared to lengthy restores that can take days
- Offsite backup costs kept in check as your data grows
- Complements cloud-based backup if cloud is not too costly for your business
- Superior reliability with BeyondRAID™ and less complicated than other file storage

Comparing Alternatives

Comparing file replication with other approaches to offsite backup.

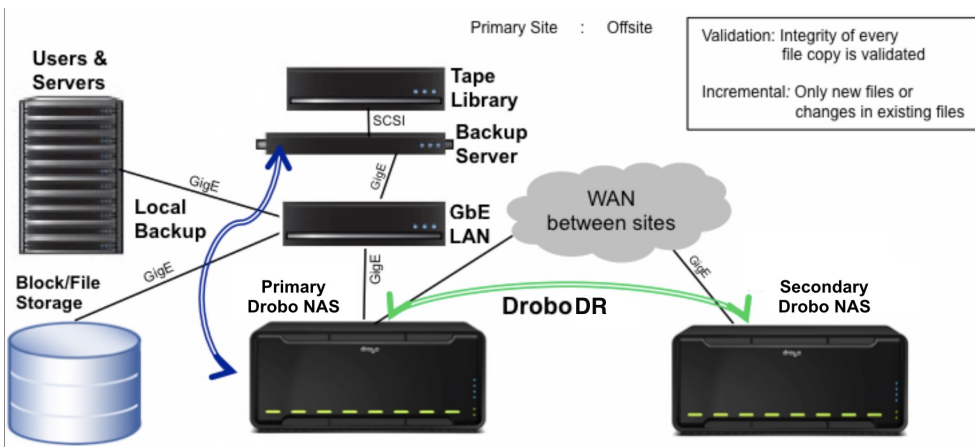| Criteria	Drobo NAS	Cloud-based Backup	Offsite Tape Vaulting
Recovery point	Based on last sync	Based on last backup	Based on last shipment
Access time	Very fast	Fast	Very slow
Restore time	< 1 hour with redirection	1 hour to days based on WAN	Transport + several hours
Monthly cost	$$	$$$	$$$ – $$$$

Drobo Solution Summary | Is Your Plan for Offsite Backup Working?

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What You Will Need

Comparing SMB file storage devices that support replication for offsite backup.

What You Need	Drobo NAS	Business NAS with HA
2 x file storage devices, 8 TB each	**48% lower cost**	> $10K for 2 devices
The Big Difference	**$5K lower**, buy 2 for the price of 1	Also higher cost to scale-up storage over time
More difference in hardware	**33 – 66% more expandable**, mix and match drives	6 slots locked into specific drives

Tested solution protecting data at primary and secondary sites.

How To Build It

How to perform offsite backup with just a few clicks:

1. Install Drobo Dashboard on management server (can be on backup server or a VM)
2. Deploy file storage device(s), easy one-click setup with a Drobo NAS, configure shares
3. Copy data to primary Drobo, users experience file shares as always
4. Use 5-click configuration process to set up the Drobo DR schedule for ongoing protection. For efficient bulk transfer, do an initial sync of secondary Drobo locally, then deploy the unit to the secondary site for incremental syncing
5. Configure network to enable communication between sites (can be done in advance)
6. Turn on secondary Drobo NAS, run scheduled or on-demand sync, and you have offsite backup!
7. Test your recovery plan, it can be as easy as redirecting users to the secondary Drobo.

Where Drobo is Different

There are dozens of file storage products for SMBs. Some of them are small systems sold in retail stores that lack the reliability and features required for business. Other larger ones provide expandability and often have many features that will never be used. The problem with all of them is the complexity of configuring and managing the storage and the offsite backup features. Even storage products for consumers can be nearly impossible to configure and use. Drobo NAS with Drobo DR gives you offsite backup with start to sync in 5 clicks!

Drobo provides superior data protection with BeyondRAID technology in a package that is very affordable for business. Compared with the cost of cloud backup or offsite tape vaulting, customers can buy the two file storage devices they need for offsite file replication often at less than half the cost. Simplicity can be more important than cost, as predictable recovery from a loss for a small business can only come from a backup strategy that is easy to set up and maintain and enables rapid recovery. *Offsite backup with Drobo is the perfect choice for SMBs.*

More Information

Want to buy it? Ask your preferred reseller, or visit http://www.drobo.com/where_to_buy